

And yet, year after year, decade after decade, workers are losing. And the Employee Free Choice Act is yet another tool that we have that we will provide to workers so that it enables them to organize, to bargain collectively and fairly, as partners at a table, with employers and to say to employers, once again, we don't have anything against your making money, making a profit, building your business. But you cannot do that at the expense of and on the backs of workers.

And I think it's a fairly simple proposition, and I think it is one, Mr. Speaker, that the American public feels very strongly about, that somehow, all of us who get up every day and go to work for a living ought to have good wages, good benefits and safe working conditions, just three simple things.

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Because the American worker is not asking anyone, really, for a handout. The American worker is not asking for an easy deal or for a bonus. They are saying fair wages, good and safe working conditions and good benefits. I think that the American worker deserves the opportunity to sit at a bargaining table to decide: I want to have a union; I want to easily sign up and let my coworkers know that I want a union; I want the choice to be able to do that, and then I want to bargain fairly at the bargaining table with the employer. I think that that, Mr. Speaker, is a good deal for the American people.

So I am excited about the prospects. I think it is important for us to destroy the mythology that is taking place from some who don't really believe in the American worker, and I think it is important for us to destroy the mythology of those who believe that just because a worker gets a good wage and good benefits and good working conditions it means that that is the end of the American economy. It is not true. It never has been true, and it will not be true tomorrow.

So I thank the gentleman from Minnesota for joining me this evening to speak up on behalf of the American worker and to speak up and say that the Employee Free Choice Act is about choice. It is not my choice. It is not your choice. Mr. Speaker, it is not your choice. It is the choice of the American worker to choose a union, to bargain fairly, to get a good deal, and to go to work the next morning to take care of themselves and their families.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mrs. DAVIS of California (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of funeral of very close friend.

Mr. GRIFFITH (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of family medical emergency.

Mr. POE of Texas (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of official business in the district.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. KAPTUR) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. COHEN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SHERMAN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SCHIFF, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. BURTON of Indiana) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. GOHMERT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GUTHRIE, for 5 minutes, March 31.

Mr. CASSIDY, for 5 minutes, April 2.

Mr. POE of Texas, for 5 minutes, April 2.

Mr. JONES, for 5 minutes, April 2.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, April 2.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 1 minute p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, March 30, 2009, at 12:30 p.m., for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1066. A letter from the Attorney, Office of Assistant General Counsel for Legislation and Regulatory Law, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Procurement of Energy Efficient Products (RIN: 1904-AB68) received March 19, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1067. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Formaldehyde, Polymer with 2-Methyloxirane and 4-Nonylphenol; Tolerance Exemption [EPA-HQ-OPP-2008-0794; FRL-8399-5] received March 13, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1068. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed manufacturing license agreement with Germany (Transmittal No. DDTC 141-08), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 39, section 36(c); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1069. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Removal and Modification of Certain Entries from the Entity List: Persons Removed or Modified Based on

ERC Annual Review [Docket No.: 090223225-9275-01] (RIN: 0694-AE57) received March 19, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1070. A letter from the Secretary, Judicial Conference of the United States, transmitting a legislative proposal to eliminate the divisions within the Judicial District of North Dakota, leaving unaffected North Dakota's configuration as one judicial district with four places of holding court; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

1071. A letter from the Director of Regulations Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule — Termination of Phase-In Period for Full Concurrent Receipt of Military Retired Pay and Veterans Disability Compensation Based on a VA Determination of Individual Unemployability (RIN: 2900-AN19) received March 19, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

1072. A letter from the Director of Regulations Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule — The Dr. James Allen Veteran Vision Equity Act of 2007 (RIN: 2900-AN03) received March 19, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

1073. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Tier I — Industry Director Directive on Domestic Production Deduction (DPD) #3 — Field Directive related to compensation Expenses currently deducted but attributable to prior periods. [LMSB-04-0209-004] received March 19, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1074. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Applicable Federal Rates — April 2009 (Rev. Rul. 2009-10) received March 20, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1075. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Tax Treatment of Losses from Criminally Fraudulent Investment Arrangements (Rev. Rul. 2009-9) received March 23, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1076. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Safe Harbor Method for Determining Theft Loss Deductions from Criminally Fraudulent Investment Arrangements (Rev. Proc. 2009-20) received March 20, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1077. A letter from the National Quality Forum, transmitting the Forum's report entitled, "Improving Healthcare Performance: Setting Priorities and Enhancing Measurement Capacity" in accordance with a provision in the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act of 2008; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. FILNER: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 1171. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to reauthorize the